



Low Dose Lung Cancer Screening

Aetna/ BCBS/ Cigna/ UHC

Frequency: Once per year

Medical Necessity: Current or former smokers ages 50-80 years with a 20 pack-year or more smoking history and, if a former smoker, has quit within the past 15 years.

*** Screening should be discontinued once a person has not smoked for 15 years or develops a health problem that substantially limits life expectancy or the ability or willingness to have curative lung surgery.

Recommendation:

- 1) Assess risk based on age and pack-year smoking history
- 2) If the person is aged 50-80 years and has a 20 pack-year or more smoking history, engage in shared decision making about screening.
 - a) The decision to undertake screening should involve discussing its potential benefits, limitations and harms

(HCPC G0296 – Counseling visit to discuss the need for lung screening using LDCT scan. Service is for eligibility determination and shared decision making. Payable in the facility and non-facility)

- b) If a person decides to be screened, refer them for Lung Cancer Screening
- c) If a person currently smokes, they should receive smoking cessation interventions. (CPT 99406 3 minutes up to 10 minutes, 99407 greater than 10 minutes. Must be billed with a tobacco use dx code)

Smoking Cessation Interventions

Smoking cessation interventions and services must be offered to current smokers.

Cessation counseling in the G0296 code for the shared decision-making visit should include counseling on the importance of maintaining cigarette smoking abstinence if a former smoker, the importance of smoking cessation if a current smoker, and furnishing of information about tobacco cessation interventions. If smoking cessation counseling is provided separately from the shared decision-making visit, it may be documented using the following CPT codes:

99406: Smoking and tobacco use cessation counseling visit; intermediate, greater than 3 minutes up to 10 minutes

99407: Smoking and tobacco use cessation counseling visit; intensive, greater than 10 minutes

Smoking cessation counseling can also be reported in addition to an evaluation and management (E&M) visit, performed on the same day by the same licensed independent providers, by appending 25 modifiers to the appropriate level of E&M service.

Additionally, smoking cessation counseling can be performed via telehealth.

CPT 71271: CT, thorax, low dose for cancer screening without contrast material.

Payable DX Codes:

- **Z87.891** for former smokers (personal history if nicotine dependence)
- **F17.21** for current smokers (nicotine dependence)
- **F17.210** Nicotine dependence, cigarettes, uncomplicated (most used and accepted)
- **F17.211** Nicotine dependence, cigarettes, in remission
- **F17.213** Nicotine dependence, cigarettes, with withdrawal
- **F17.218** Nicotine dependence, cigarettes, with other nicotine- induced disorders
- **F17.219** Nicotine dependence, cigarettes, with unspecified nicotine-induced disorders